

This thesis is a pilot project in using microcomputer for Thai medical periodical indexing, the objectives of which are: 1) to analyse, design and create a system for storage and retrieval of Thai medical periodicals by using microcomputer and Thai dBASE III program, and 2) to evaluate the results of the system with different groups of users.

Two hundred articles from Thai medical periodicals were selected as the sample for this research. They were indexed and processed by microcomputer and Thai dBASE III program. The off-line outputs consist of five types of print-outs, namely, Items in Thai Medical Periodicals Index, Subject Index, Author Index, Keyword-in-Title Index, and Keyword Text Index. The outputs can be displayed on screen and printed on a printer. On-line searching can be used with four search keys: Author, Subject-heading, Keyword-in-Title and Keyword Text. And it can be used with the Boolean operator search strategy.

The evaluation of the research was carried out with three groups of users, namely, 1) general users, 2) librarians, and 3) system analysts and/or programmers. The results of the evaluation are as follows: Through observation the system can work properly in every functions. The outputs can be displayed both on screen and printed on a printer. Users can search the required items through the system by means of 4 search keys, and can use Boolean search strategy. As for the users satisfaction towards the system, the level of satisfaction among general users and librarians with off-line print-outs is high, whereas the satisfaction among the system analysts and/or programmers is moderate. All three groups are moderately satisfied with search strategy. Lastly, general users and librarians are highly satisfied with the on-line outputs.